

The Oceanography Report—pages 730-732

Editorial

Instrumentation Crisis for VGP

The status of geochemical/mineralogical instrumentation is a matter of great concern. Not only is much of the present equipment obsolete and poorly maintained because of lack of technical staff and money, there is also great concern about the pressing demands of new instruments (e.g., synchrotrons, ion microprobes, high-energy mass spectrometers). Problems concerning instrumentation pervade the entire field of science, and they are particularly severe because of the cuts in the overall government budgets. These problems are recognized by the National Research Council (NRC) and the General Accounting Office and are the subject of several studies. The pressures on the Earth Sciences Division of the National Science Foundation have been pointed out by its director, Robin Brett, and there is extreme concern at the moment about the science budgets as opposed to the engineering budgets of NASA.

To study the status of geochemical/mineralogical instrumentation, an ad hoc committee of the Geological Sciences Board (GSB) of the NRC has been appointed by GSB chairman, William R. Dickinson. The members of this committee are co-chairmen William W. Hay and William C. Luth; Gerald V. Gibbs, Joseph V. Smith, George R. Tilton, and W. Gary Ernst. Dickinson proposed the following questions:

1. What, in fact, is the state of instrumentation nationally, i.e., is total inventory adequate and is it being used effectively?
2. What can be done within the framework of foreseeable federal budgetary constraints to alleviate shortages that exist?
3. What is industry's potential role in addressing the overall funding problem?
4. Are there new creative or alternative methods for financing (i.e., in acquisition, maintenance, upgrading,

replacements, etc.) that might exploit available resources more satisfactorily?

5. Is there a conceivable role for identified regional research centers or shared arrangements that offer advantages so far unexplored?

Other questions will be addressed when they have been properly identified.

The first meeting of the ad hoc committee was held at Cincinnati during the GSA Meeting. The second meeting will be held in San Francisco during the AGU Meeting, and an open informal session will also be held during the AGU meeting. The report of the ad hoc committee must be completed by March 1982.

My own views, which are tentative, can be discussed under two major headings.

The Need for More Funding

Geochemical instrumentation is severely underfunded in relation to some other areas of scientific instrumentation. This is partly the result of the relatively simple instruments used in geochemistry up until the last 20 years. Whereas nuclear and particle physicists were already using expensive generators some 40 years ago and had developed large teams of engineers and scientists over the following 20 years, most geochemists, even today, work in small independent laboratories that are poorly equipped with technical staff and facilities. Only some are fortunate enough to work in institutions with access to first-class technical services. The problems become increasingly severe as certain instruments (X-ray diffractometers and electron microprobes and microscopes, for example) become absolutely fundamental to both research and teaching programs, while other instruments are being developed (e.g., pulsed neutron generators, X-ray and ultraviolet light sources, high-energy mass spectrometers). The overall funding is to stay level, or even to decline. I can see no way that all desirable goals can be achieved. Hence our long-term primary goal is to find out whether the total funding can be increased in the face of intense competition. Ultimately, this becomes a political and sociological question from which a wide range of views can be expected. No doubt some of you will speculate on the relative cost of scientific research and other human endeavors. In particular, expenditures on war and defense and on various drugs might be discussed.

In the short-term (approximately 5 years), it seems likely that federal and state funds will prove to be strictly limited. In theory, tax reductions for both individuals and corporations should lead to a greater amount of disposable income. In practice, gifts of either money or equipment will probably prove to be erratic unless a national sense of urgency translates into a major campaign of systematic donations. The Petroleum Research Fund of the American Chemical Society has been very efficient in dispensing research grants from industrial funds. Should an industry-wide effort to disburse funds for research facilities and instruments be organized in geochemistry? It seems totally impractical to organize gifts from individuals, and efforts by individual institutions should prove more profitable. But to be successful, there must be a recognition by wealthy potential donors that scientific research, in general, and geochemistry, in particular, needs a lot of help. Is it realistic to expect an individual to donate a half million dollars for a new electron microprobe at his or her alma mater, especially when university administrators are trying to raise money for faculty salaries and buildings?

The Need for Improved Efficiency

Whatever the chances of increased funding, it is imperative to find ways of using present equipment with greater efficiency. Probably some distinction must be made between 'frontier instruments' and 'basic instruments.'

About the only way to save substantial amounts of money on new expensive instruments that open up new frontiers is to limit the number. This automatically leads to establishment of 'research centers.' I maintain that it is false economy to starve such a research center. Each one should be enabled to compete on a worldwide level. In particular, it should be staffed by first-rate people paid on, at least, a semipermanent basis instead of on the more common catch-as-catch-can basis. It may be possible to save some money by joint development of instruments with scientists in other countries. This has the additional psychological benefit of forging international friendships in this era of dangerous nationalistic feuds. However, it is a nuisance, at best, and a downright pain, at worst, for an outsider to work at a research center, even if the staff goes out of its way to welcome and help visitors. To minimize these problems, locations should be chosen to ease travel. Commuting by car, bus, or train is cheaper and generally easier

then overnight stays after long flights; furthermore there is less dislocation of teaching and family life. There are many grave disadvantages to 'research centers,' and I am sure that there will be considerable feeling against them. Hence, it is important to minimize the need.

Turning to 'basic instruments,' there is much that can be done. First, it is necessary to encourage manufacturers to avoid unnecessary 'bells and whistles.' After some years of development, there is a danger that a basic instrument becomes loaded with unnecessary frills. I believe that new electron microprobes are becoming too complex and too expensive. Who needs a servo-operated sample chamber powered by air compressors? Who needs an SEM facility on an electron microprobe used mainly for analyses on grains at least 10 μm across? Let us urge construction of basic instruments whenever possible. Two instruments at \$250,000 can be better used than one at \$500,000. Second, existing instruments must be kept in service for a longer period. Of course, it is nice to boast about the latest shiny paint, but perhaps we should boost instead about the Puritan virtue of make-do-and-mend. Preventive maintenance and judicious rebuilding can work wonders on some old instruments, but only if excellent technical staff are in charge. In general, service from manufacturers is expensive and not always efficient. I believe that a university can make a profit by paying for a highly skilled cadre of technicians who can handle essentially all instruments. Third, some instruments built before the computer era can be upgraded successfully by addition of a computer and an interface. For example, a Picker, four-circle X-ray diffractometer could be purchased last year for \$12,500 and automated for \$30,000 to produce an instrument superior in some respects to now ones costing over \$100,000. There are thousands of X-ray powder diffractometers that can be automated by addition of a stepping motor, an interface, and a computer for between \$15,000 and \$30,000; compare this with the \$80,000-\$100,000 for a new instrument. It is important to install some new instruments on a regular and continuing basis, but revamped older instruments can serve an important function, especially for teaching. I recommend that funds be made available for renovation and automation of as much existing equipment as possible. A careful choice must be made of the type of equipment. Thus, some electron microprobes have such poor optical and vacuum systems that automation is not worth the cost. Again, I emphasize the importance of first-rate technical staff and facilities, especially in teaching institutions, which are responsible for training a new generation of scientists. Fourth, I recommend that universities teach more courses on laboratory principles and practice. These might be staffed in part by the technicians mentioned above. Scientific societies should consider giving short courses on new techniques and should arrange for dissemination of appropriate information on upgrading old basic instruments.

Other questions that should be addressed include

1. What should be the distribution of research funds (e.g., from NSF) between equipment costs and other categories, such as salaries?
2. Is there a current shortage of trained technical staff? What are future prospects for industrial recruits?
3. Should there be coordination between government laboratories and private institutions, and to what degree?
4. Is it important to find ways for U.S. companies to recapture instrument sales in areas now lost or almost lost to foreign companies (e.g., in X-ray diffraction instruments)?
5. Should a program be established to cover costs of transferring older instruments from industrial companies and government laboratories to teaching institutions both in the U.S. and abroad?
6. Do some users treat instruments as 'black boxes,' and if so, should training programs based on fundamental principles be established?

We anticipate a thorough review of the instruments in a representative set of laboratories, and an appropriate questionnaire is being prepared. However, this will need to be supplemented by as much 'anecdotal' information as possible.

Please send your ideas, preferably in concise writing, with formal permission to quote them in a final report. If you wish to phone me, please do so, if at all possible on a Wednesday, at (312) 753-8632, 8:30 A.M.-7:00 P.M. I prefer this day for administrative and miscellaneous matters and try to keep other days for teaching and research.

Joseph V. Smith
President-Elect
VGP Section

Particles and Fields—
Ionosphere

5535 Interactions between waves and particles in the ionosphere: A review of recent progress. H. P. Silver, *Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado 80502*.

Unique wave-particle interactions in the ionosphere are reviewed. The review is organized into three parts: (1) the review of the basic physics of wave-particle interactions in the ionosphere; (2) the review of the recent progress in the study of wave-particle interactions in the ionosphere; and (3) the review of the recent progress in the study of wave-particle interactions in the ionosphere. The review is organized into three parts: (1) the review of the basic physics of wave-particle interactions in the ionosphere; (2) the review of the recent progress in the study of wave-particle interactions in the ionosphere; and (3) the review of the recent progress in the study of wave-particle interactions in the ionosphere.

1540 Particle precipitation in the ionosphere: A review of recent progress. H. P. Silver, *Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado 80502*.

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Station and ion measurements made by the Voyager 1 plasma science instrument revealed a plasma wake surrounding Titan in Saturn's magnetosphere. This wake is characterized by a plasma that is more dense and hotter than the surrounding ambient magnetospheric plasma. The density enhancement is produced by the deflection of magnetospheric plasma around the wake. The wake is characterized by a plasma that is more dense and hotter than the surrounding ambient magnetospheric plasma. The density enhancement is produced by the deflection of magnetospheric plasma around the wake.

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News

Earth Dynamics Study

The 56 investigators in NASA's Crustal Dynamics Project met in September at the Goddard Space Flight Center to review the project, which will study the earth's tectonic plate movements, crustal deformation, and rotational dynamics. European investigators convened October 30. Using precise geodetic data obtained with such space techniques as laser ranging and radio interferometry, investigators will study regional crustal deformation in California, Alaska, and other regions of high earthquake activity; the current-day relative motion between the earth's major tectonic plates; the internal stability of the North American and Pacific plates; and variations in the Earth's rotation rate and position of its polar axis. The project will extend through 1988.

Two techniques have been developed to make precise measurements between two points separated by large distances (thousands of kilometers). The first involves laser ranging to artificial satellites and to the moon. The LA-GEOS satellite, launched by NASA on May 4, 1976, is in a nearly circular orbit at an altitude of 5800 km, is a sphere whose surface is covered with 428 optical-cube corner reflectors which reflect any incident optical signal back to the source. By accurately and repeatedly measuring the time for a laser pulse to travel to the satellite and return, the position of the ground laser can be determined with high accuracy. When similar measurements are made from a second station (which can be located on a different continent), the distance between the two stations can be determined with a precision of about 5 cm. Lunar reflectors were implanted by the crew of Apollo 14, 15, and 16, and by two Soviet unmanned Luno missions. In addition to studies of the earth, lunar laser ranging has provided valuable information on the dynamic motion of the moon and its orbit and has been used to study theories of general relativity.

The second technique, called Very Long Baseline Interferometry (VLBI), involves the analysis of radio signals emitted by quasars and other celestial objects. These emissions are received and recorded on magnetic tape by two or more radio telescopes separated by large distances. These signals are subsequently compared to determine the difference in the time of which the signals reached each telescope, and the time differences are analyzed to determine the precise distance between each of the stations. Currently, the precision of this technique is on the order of 3 cm. By making repeated measurements over a period of years, using both techniques, crustal motions as small as 1 cm per year can be determined. Current knowledge of the relative motions of the tectonic plates is based on paleomagnetic data and other information and is averaged over the past several million years of geologic time. These averaged rates are estimated to be between 1 and 20 cm/yr. Using laser ranging and VLBI, these movements can be directly measured for the first time, and tectonic models can be revised to reflect contemporary plate motion.

In California, Alaska, and other regions of high earthquake activity, the driving forces of plate tectonics cause a buildup of crustal strain near plate boundaries. When the resulting stress exceeds the strength of the underlying materials, the stress is released in the form of earthquakes or slow creep. A major objective of the Crustal Dynamics Project is to measure and analyze regional deformation and strain accumulation along major plate boundaries such as the San Andreas Fault in California, which separates the North American Plate from the Pacific Plate. This will help us to understand the basic mechanisms leading to earthquakes and eventually to the development of a reliable earthquake prediction model.

In order to measure the accumulation of crustal strain over an active tectonic region, measurements must be made at many sites. NASA has developed highly mobile systems, using both laser ranging and VLBI technology, which can easily relocate from one site to another within a matter of days. Mobile systems using VLBI techniques have been developed at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, and mobile laser systems have been developed at Goddard Space Flight Center and the University of Texas.—PMB

Hot Plasma Zone Near Saturn

Investigators using data collected by Voyager 2 during its flyby of Saturn this past August have found a place in the solar system containing the hottest gas yet observed. Temperatures in a region of space around Saturn range from 300 million to nearly 1 billion °C. The hot gas is an enormous doughnut-shaped region encircling Saturn at an altitude ranging from 273,600 km above the planet's cloud top to as high as 724,000 km.

The discovery was announced at a colloquium at the Applied Physics Laboratory of The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, by S. M. Krimigis, chief scientist of the Applied Physics Laboratory Space Department, who is principal investigator of the Voyager Low-Energy Charged-Particle Experiment, which made the observations. The measurements were analyzed by a team that includes investigators from The Johns Hopkins University, the universities of Maryland and Kansas, Bell Telephone Laboratories, and the Max Planck Institute in Germany.

"The temperatures," Krimigis said, "are about 300 times hotter than the solar corona, and twice as hot as the Jupiter plasma cloud discovered by our instrument on Voyager in 1979."

"The reason that the spacecraft survived passage through this region," explains Louis Lanzerotti of Bell Laboratories, a co-investigator of the experiment, "is that the density of the gas is very small, only about 30 particles in a cu-

bic foot; so, there were not very many ions hitting the spacecraft and heating it up."

The low-energy charged-particle instrument is designed to measure ions (a few thousand miles per second) ions and electrons in the magnetospheres of the planets and in the interplanetary medium. The instrument can distinguish several elements, such as hydrogen, helium, oxygen, sulfur, sodium, and others; measure the direction in which these high-speed particles are moving; and the temperature of this particle population where the plasma is very hot (ions of millions of degrees). The instrument is also capable of identifying the equivalent of the Van Allen belts and radiation zones in the magnetosphere of the planets.

The region of space around Saturn occupied by the hot plasma torus seems to be centered around the orbits of Dione and Rhea, two of Saturn's icy moons, and to extend further away from the planet on the dayside than on the nightside, Krimigis said. He also noted that in this region of space Pioneer II and Voyager I experiments had shown the presence of a relatively "cold" plasma (temperatures of a few million degrees), which was a thousand times denser than the hot plasma identified by Voyager 2. No obvious explanation was offered for the heating mechanism of this gas. [Source: NASA—PMB]

New Water Year Has Wet Start

Streamflow during October, the first month of the 1982 water year, was in the normal range over most of the country, but well below normal streamflow still persists in the Southeast, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

The water year used by hydrologists runs from October 1 of any calendar year to September 30 of the following calendar year, and it is designed to roughly follow the growing season and to begin and end during a period of generally low streamflow.

USGS hydrologists said that about 80% of the key index stations reporting across the country showed normal to above-normal streamflow during October. By contrast, 6 months ago, more than half of the key index stations reporting during May showed well-below normal streamflow within the lowest 25% of record, that is, 75% of the time, flow will be equal or exceeded.

Although the nation's water resources picture is off to a generally wet start for the new water year, USGS hydrologists said that it will take several months of above-normal precipitation to reverse the effects of the previous dry months.

Streamflow throughout much of the Southeast remains well-below normal. Flows of more than half of the key index streams from Virginia south to Florida and west to Alabama were at well-below normal levels for October. Streamflow on all four key streams in Georgia was below normal for the fourth straight month.

In contrast, above-normal streamflow predominated in a broad regional band from New England through the Great Lakes states and into Minnesota and North Dakota. Large areas of above-normal streamflow were also reported in Arizona and New Mexico and in Texas and Oklahoma, where severe flooding boosted flows of many streams.

As an indication of the generally healthy water situation in much of the United States during October, combined flow of the nation's "Big Five" rivers (Mississippi, St. Lawrence, Ohio, Columbia and Missouri) averaged 483 billion gallons a day (bgd), about 2% above normal. The combined flow of these rivers has been in the above-normal range now for five straight months. The Big Five rivers account for streamflow runoff in about half of the continental United States and provide a useful check on the status of the nation's water resources.

Individual flows of the Big Five for October: Mississippi River near Vicksburg, Miss., 178 bgd, 5% below normal and 21% below September; St. Lawrence River near Massena, N.Y., 193 bgd, 17% above normal and 1% above September; Columbia River at The Dalles, Ore., 55 bgd, 7% below normal and 8% below last month; Ohio River at Louisville, Ky., 23 bgd, 2% below normal and 20% below September; Missouri River at Hermann, Mo., 34 bgd, 12% below normal and 5% below last month. (Photo credit: U.S. Geological Survey, Department of the Interior.)



Above normal (within the highest 25 percent of record for this month)

In normal range

Below normal (within the lowest 25 percent of record for this month)

Conference Reviews R&D Budget

About 85 university officials, laboratory directors, industry research executives, scientists, and engineers gathered in Washington, D.C., at the invitation of National Academy of Sciences President Frank Press, to discuss the outlook for and the implications of the federal research and development budget for fiscal 1982 and beyond. The consensus of the group is that President Reagan's proposed 12% across-the-board cut, if enacted, would severely damage science; that the White House should review research funding to make more productive use of research dollars; that science and technology are vital to the Reagan administration's goals; and that basic research should take priority over development.

George A. Keyworth, director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), and Fred Khosrosh, associate director for natural resources, energy, and science in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), also attended the meeting on October 28 and 29. They advised the group to be realistic and not assume the worst case. In addition they told the conference that during this period of fiscal restraint growth will be restricted; nevertheless, science will be treated with sensitivity.

Fearing, however, that the restricted growth associated with the budget eliciting will irreversibly harm science, the conference participants voiced their concerns to the Administration and Congress. Press emphasized that the gathering was not a confrontation or a lobbying effort.

Reagan's proposed reductions "will do irreparable damage unless longer-term research, in contrast to development and demonstration, is protected," according to a statement issued at the conference's conclusion. As examples, the assembled scientists pointed out that young investigators, early in their careers, would not receive support for their work. In addition, science teams would be broken apart, and the poor opportunities perceived by young people would reduce the supply of scientists.

This manpower problem concerns industry the most, according to Keith McHenry, vice president for research and development at the Amoco Oil Co. Henry Feshbach, physics department chairman at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, noted that in the physical sciences the manpower numbers will be back to the pre-Sputnik era "if the proposed cuts are approved. Press added that such a trend would not be easily reversible because the cycle for 'building and rebuilding' science approximates 5 to 10 years.

The conference participants also agreed that "continued sound investments in research and development by the federal government are essential to our national goals." Their statement continued, "Because of the important relationship between research, technology, and increased productivity, the expressed goals of this Administration for a strong economy and improved national security demand more, rather than less, investment in basic research."

While recognizing the need for lightening the federal money belt, the participants urged the Administration and Congress to take an across-the-board view of R&D and to make budget adjustments while maintaining the basic sciences. OMB and OSTP were suggested as candidates for performing such a review. The group also asked that the government recognize that "education in the sciences is inextricably linked to research" and urged that graduate student support be continued through research grants, fellowships, and traineeships.

Substituting a large part of government support with industry support was not an acceptable solution to the problem. This growing relation between universities and industry is laudable, and the nation can only benefit from these partnerships. Yet, the scientists agreed, "such a relation cannot become a substitute for the strong government-university partnership in support of basic research which now exists."—BTR

Memorial Fund for Henry Faul

The University of Pennsylvania has established a memorial fund to honor Henry Faul, professor of geophysics. The fund will be used to remind future generations of Penn geology students of the effective and uniquely personal leadership role Henry played in the geology department during the last 18 years, according to Robert Giegengack, department chairman. Faul died on September 16.

Contributions may be made to the trustees of the University of Pennsylvania for the Henry Faul Memorial Fund, c/o the Department of Geology, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104.

Geophysicists

Gordon J. Bell, 57, died on May 8, 1981. A member of the Meteorology Section, he joined AGU in 1974.

John D. Hale, 88, died on April 17. A member of the Meteorology Section, he joined AGU in 1948.

Lloyd Harold, 73, died on September 16, 1981. A Life Member, he joined AGU in 1935. He was a member of the Hydrology Section.

Henry Hampe, 89, died on October 13, 1981. A Life Member, he joined AGU in 1933. He was a member of the Geodesy Section.

Jorgen Holmboe, 78, died recently. A Life Fellow, he joined AGU in 1938. He was a member of the Meteorology Section.

Stephen W. Nils, 77, died on February 22. A member of the Meteorology Section, he joined AGU in 1947.

Gerrit H. Toebes, 54, died recently. A member of the Hydrology Section, he joined AGU in 1968.

New Publications

Modern X-Ray Analysis on Single Crystals

Peter Luger, Weller de Gruyter, New York, 312 pp., 1980, \$48.00 (clothbound).

Reviewed by Paul B. Moore

One may ask "Why a new book on crystal structure analysis?" and justifiably so. I was brought up on that great classic *X-ray Crystallography* by Martin Burger, written some 40 years ago. It was, and still is, a gold mine of information, many tedious calculations of which Burger did himself. But crystallography as science has its own autonomous system. The science has become so fundamental and automated in rapid information retrieval that it is now a servant to other sciences. Crystal structures are solved no longer for their own sake but for the increase of knowledge at the chemical bond in whatever field it may be.

This pretty little book with its cartoons of baby's head and symmetry operations around it is ideal for the modern student who will probably use crystallography as a tool. Consider the chapters: metrics, vectors, diffraction theory (52 pp.), film methods, X-rays, choice of apparatus (59 pp.), crystal symmetry and space groups (85 pp.), diffraction (29 pp.), phase problem (62 pp.), and refinement (68 pp.). Each is a good, thorough distillation of earlier works. Flow diagrams of symmetry operations appear, often in one-page encapsulation of what would formerly constitute a whole treatise. Most important for this book is a considerable discussion on computer-assisted structure analysis: direct methods and refinements. Small (but to the scientist, often crucially important) details are not left out, for example assessing crystal quality.

In crystal structure analysis, as in other sciences, "the mills of the gods grind slowly," so as years pass, new and clever shortcuts are discovered. There is no competition: the world has two places. There are places for Burger's classic work and for Luger's compact little book, which, by the way, generously refers to the varied classics in the field. This would be an excellent book for a graduate course in chemistry, geochemistry, etc., on a powerful and vital tool.

Paul B. Moore is a professor in the Department of the Geophysical Sciences at The University of Chicago.

AGU Geophysical Monograph, vol. 25, *Physics of Auroral Arc Formation*, is based on the proceedings of the Chapman Conference on the Formation of Auroral Arcs. The conference was financially supported by the National Science Foundation, NASA, the Air Force Geophysical Laboratory, and the Lockheed Research Laboratory. The following essay, written by the conference convenor, surveys the subject of the conference.

Physics of Auroral Arc Formation

S.-I. Akasofu and J. R. Kan (Eds.), *Geophys. Monogr. Ser.*, vol. 25, AGU, Washington, D.C., xii + 465, 1981, \$25.00.

The aurora has been one of the most challenging problems in geophysics, but it has finally begun to yield its secret. The polar aurora appears in a narrow belt called the "auroral oval," which surrounds the geomagnetic pole. A woodcut of the aurora by the great polar explorer Fridtjof Nansen (see this week's cover of *Eos*), illustrates, fairly accurately, the thin curtain-like form of the aurora, extending from the zenith to the horizon. When this curtain-like form is observed from a distant point outside (south of) the oval, it appears as an arch-like luminosity above the northern horizon. It was this particular form that was officially classified as an "arc" by Carl Störmer, who produced the first catalog of the auroral forms. This is the origin of the term arc, although we now use it to describe the curtain-like discrete form.

There is little doubt that the aurora results from an electrical discharge process powered by the solar wind-magnetosphere system. It has also been found that there exists a

potential drop of the order of a few kilovolts along auroral field lines, which is largely responsible for the acceleration of auroral particles. Until several years ago, it had been thought that a field-aligned potential drop was extremely unlikely to occur in a collisionless magnetospheric plasma. In fact, this was even a "forbidden" thought for many years.

These remarkable advances in auroral physics during the last several years are a result of extensive observations of auroral particle, field-aligned currents, and electric fields, as well as theoretical studies of its relationship among these observations. In July 1980, an AGU Chapman Conference was held at the University of Alaska to discuss the subject of the acceleration process of the auroral particles.

Two important goals were set for this conference: (1) identification of possible plasma processes that can be responsible for the cause of the potential structure, and (2) exchange of ideas, among theorists and experimentalists, on relevant plasma processes.

During the last decade, several interesting observations and theoretical studies have contributed to revealing the geometry of the auroral potential structure. Available observations suggest that equipotential contours in a meridian plane cross section of the structure are V shaped or S shaped or a combination of the two. For the V shaped geometry, electrons will be accelerated more along the center line than along the northern and southern skirts. It appears that the V shaped potential structure has at least two scale sizes: The first has a latitudinal scale of a few hundred kilometers, and the second has a latitudinal scale of a low kilometer or less embedded in the larger-scale one.

There was little doubt among the conference participants that the electric currents along geomagnetic field lines (field-aligned currents) are closely associated with the formation of potential structure. It is likely that there is a limit to this current density ($\sim 10^{-6}$ amp/m²) of upward (field-aligned) currents carried by magnetospheric electrons owing to the mirroring of these electrons as they descend toward the polar ionosphere. However, when the solar wind-magnetosphere system imposes more than this limiting current density, the magnetosphere-ionosphere system develops a potential drop to allow the electrons to carry more current to the ionosphere.

In the past we have identified double layers, electrostatic shocks, differential pitch-angle anisotropy, anomalous resistivity, and others as possible mechanisms for supporting the potential drop along field lines. The importance of a double layer in accelerating auroral particles was suggested first by H. Alfvén many years ago. On the other hand, the pitch-angle anisotropy is an important ingredient in ex-

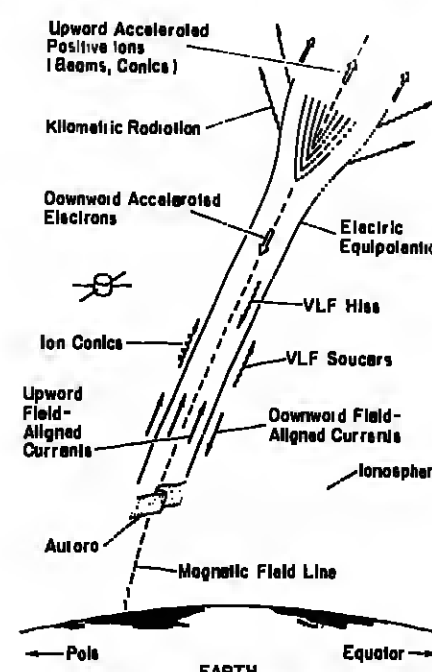


Fig. 1. Schematic illustration, showing some of the interesting features associated with the auroral potential structure (courtesy of P. B. Dusenbury).

geophysical monograph 25

Physics of Auroral Arc Formation

S.-I. Akasofu and J. R. Kan, editors

The polar aurora is investigated and a unified physical model has begun to emerge based on a great variety of observations and plasma studies. Topics explored are:

- Morphology of auroral arcs
- Auroral electrons and ions
- Auroral electric fields and field-aligned currents
- Models of auroral potential structures and energization of auroral particles
- Simulation of space plasma phenomena
- Numerical simulation of auroral potential structures and related problems
- Plasma waves observed on auroral field lines and in laboratories
- Theoretical studies of waves and turbulence in auroral plasma

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tending the field-aligned scale length of the double layer. Further, anomalous resistivity may provide additional potential drop in the double layer.

There are a number of fascinating phenomena associated with the auroral potential structure. They are well summarized by Figure 1. These phenomena serve in diagnosing plasma processes that are taking place in the auroral potential structure. For example, during the conference, experimenters and theorists came close to the agreement that the auroral kilometric radiation (AKR) is generated by gyration of electrons trapped in the auroral potential structure. Therefore, the spectral characteristics of the AKR provide important information on the trapped electrons, which are important for maintaining the double layer potential. It should also be mentioned that the spectra of auroral electrons are not necessarily in full agreement with what the potential structure predicts.

It was fortunate that several plasma physicists participated in the discussion of plasma processes associated with the formation of the auroral potential structure from a variety of viewpoints, including computer plasma simulation studies and laboratory experiments. In the history of magnetospheric physics, it may be that the auroral potential structure is the first subject so comprehensively studied by workers of diverse expertise. Many participants recognized the usefulness of computer simulation studies of space plasmas.

One of the most important future problems will be to understand the formation of the auroral potential structure as an integral part of the magnetosphere-ionosphere system, rather than as a plasma region isolated from the rest.

S.-I. Akasofu
Geophysical Institute
University of Alaska

Classified

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SERVICES, SUPPLIES, COURSES, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visitor Appointments: NCAR, Visitor Appointments at the High Altitude Observatory are available for new and established Ph.D.'s for up to one year periods to carry out research in solar physics, solar-terrestrial physics, and related geophysical topics. Applications should be received by 15 January 1982, and they should be sent to: Visitor Committee, High Altitude Observatory, National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), P.O. Box 3000, Boulder, Colorado 80507. NCAR is an equal opportunity affirmative action employer.

For special rates, query Robin Little, 800-424-2488.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Lehigh University. Research Associate (Post Doctoral) position involving a study of the geochemistry of meteoritic metallic phases. Solidification experiments are planned with Fe-Ni-S-P-C alloys to determine partition coefficients of geochemically important minor elements—Fe, Co, Au, etc. Goal is to investigate behavior of particular elements during the solidification of the core and mantle of asteroidal parent bodies. The position is available after January 1, 1982. Lehigh University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Send vita and the names of three references to Professor Joseph I. Goldstein, Department of Metallurgy and Materials Engineering, Bldg. #5, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA 18015.

Surface Geology/Ground Water. Utah State University. Tenure track position starting spring quarter of 1982 or fall quarter of 1982. Ph.D. required. Rank and salary negotiable. Surface geology with emphasis on geologic field studies and ground water with attention to both geologic and geophysical aspects. Emphasis on the arid West. Closing date November 30, 1981. USU is an affirmative action equal opportunity employer. Department of Geology 107, Utah State University, Logan, Utah 84322.

Research Associate/Theoretical Physical Oceanography. Applications invited for two postdoctoral research associate positions in the School of Oceanography, Oregon State University. Applicant will conduct research in theoretical modeling and observational comparisons of ocean circulation. Ph.D. in mathematics or the physical sciences. Submit resume, brief statement of research interests and three references by 1 January 1982 to Prof. Fern P. Miller, School of Oceanography, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon 97331. An affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.

Geophysicist. The Air Force Technical Application Center (AFTAC) is seeking candidates for a civil geophysical to supervise research in nuclear test detection technology and hydroacoustics. Duties include in-house research on discrimination between earthquakes and explosions, technical supervision of contractor research, and advising management in the candidate's area of expertise. AFTAC is located at Patrick AFB, Florida. Grade level GS-13-13, salary \$33,688. Send a current SF 171 by December 2, 1981 to Huntsville Area Office, Office of Personnel Management, Southeast Bldg., 606 Governors Drive, S.W., Huntsville, Alabama 35891. For more information, call T. E. Senhauser (305) 494-2751.

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Meetings

Penrose Conferences

Three Penrose Conferences were recently announced by the Geological Society of America. Conference titles are "Tectonic History of the Ouachita Orogen," "Origin of Fluids and Melts in Porphyry and Epithermal Mineral Deposits," and "Models of Diagenesis in Clastic Reservoirs."

Sleed for May 23-28, 1982, at DeGray State Park Lodge in Arkadelphia, Ark., "Tectonic History of the Ouachita Orogen" will feature discussions on the environments of deposition and tectonic framework of Early to Middle Paleozoic strata; provenance and tectonic framework of the carboniferous flysch; the Benton-Broken Bow uplift as a subduction complex; and the regional tectonic setting of the Ouachita complex. The conference will include a field trip in the Ouachita Mountains surrounding DeGray Dam and Lake Ouachita. An optional field trip will be conducted May 23, before the conference begins, to the eastern outcrops of the Ouachita Mountains in Arkansas. The Ouachita orogenic belt extends from the southwestern Appalachians to the Marathon region of Texas and into Mexico.

To attend, contact either of the convokers, William A. Thomas or George A. Velez, by February 15. Indicate your interest in the conference and in the optional field trip. Also, describe areas of discussion to which you can contribute. Write to Thomas, Department of Geology, University of Alabama, University, AL 35486, or to Velez, Department of Geology, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211.

The conference "Origin of Fluids and Melts in Porphyry and Epithermal Mineral Deposits" will be held August 8-13, 1982, at the Holiday Inn in Durango, Colo. Topics to be covered include the environment's role in the emplacement of plutons in the upper crust; the relation of the melt content and mineral assemblages of deposits to plutons; the deduction of the chemical nature of intruding magmas from the resulting plutons; and the conditions under which a pluton will produce a porphyry-type deposit, a vein deposit, or both. Two 1-day field trips will include surface tours of the Idaho Springs-Central City and Jamestown mining districts and an underground tour of the Henderson molybdenite deposit. There will be optional half-day surface field trips to other mining districts in central Colorado.

Applications to attend the conference should be sent to Jim LaAnderson, Department of Geological Engineering, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, CO 80401; deadline is April 20. Persons interested in giving an oral presentation or a poster session should submit a title and topic description by February 28. Convokers are LaAnderson, Steve Ludington, and Art Bockstrom.

"Models of Diagenesis in Clastic Reservoirs" is scheduled tentatively for August 15-20, 1982, in Kailua, Kona, Hawaii, following the Clay Mineral Society Annual Meeting on August 8-14 in Hilo, Hawaii. The conference will examine diagenetic models pertaining to reservoir rocks. Emphasis will be on the temporal and spatial distribution of diagenetic products in actual reservoirs and on theoretical models of heat, mass, and fluid flow.

To attend, contact J. R. Wood, COFCR, P.O. Box 446, Le Hebra, CA 90831; deadline is April 30. Include a brief description of topics to be contributed and the reason for wanting to attend. Convokers of the conference are Wood, Jen Huchison, Department of Geology, University of Calgary, Calgary, AB, Canada, T2N 1N4; and J. R. Bolas, Department of Geology, UCSB, Santa Barbara, CA 93107.

Geodesy and Gravity

1982 Geodesy and Gravity Conference, 1982, at the Holiday Inn in Durango, Colo. Topics to be covered include the environment's role in the emplacement of plutons in the upper crust; the relation of the melt content and mineral assemblages of deposits to plutons; the deduction of the chemical nature of intruding magmas from the resulting plutons; and the conditions under which a pluton will produce a porphyry-type deposit, a vein deposit, or both. Two 1-day field trips will include surface tours of the Idaho Springs-Central City and Jamestown mining districts and an underground tour of the Henderson molybdenite deposit. There will be optional half-day surface field trips to other mining districts in central Colorado.

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National Water Conference

Representatives from the Academy of Natural Sciences, the American Water Works Association, and the Water Pollution Control Federation will consider how successful the United States has been in its approach to water pollution control and other questions relating to water quality and the Clean Water Act during the National Water Conference to be held in Philadelphia, Pa., January 28-27, 1982.

The purpose of the conference is to compile scientific information on what has been achieved by the Clean Water Act. This information can be of use to environmentally concerned people, industry, and lawmakers during their forthcoming deliberations on the future of the nation's water pollution control laws, according to Ruth Patrick, chairman of the conference planning committee.

For additional information, contact James Wilson, Secretary, The National Water Conference, Academy of Natural Sciences, 19th and the Parkway, Philadelphia, PA 19103 (telephone: 215-299-1107).

Travel Grants to IAG General Meeting

Deadline for Applications: January 1, 1982
AGU has applied to the National Science Foundation for a grant to assist the travel of individual U.S. scientists to the General Meeting of the International Association of Geophysicists, to be held in Tokyo, Japan, May 7-20, 1982. Application forms for the grants are available from Member Programs Division, American Geophysical Union, 2000 Florida Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009 (telephone: 202-462-6903 or toll free 800-424-2488).



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AGU FALL MEETING

Hydrology

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Environmental Engineering Conference

A call for papers has been issued for the 1982 National Conference on Environmental Engineering, slated for July 14-18, 1982, at the Sheraton-Ritz Hotel in Minneapolis, Minn.

Papers on the following topics are especially requested: air quality, noise pollution, nuclear waste management, solid wastes, toxic and hazardous wastes, water pollution, and water supply and treatment.

Abstracts of approximately 500 words should include the title of paper, title, affiliation, and address of the author or authors (indicate which person will present the paper); the approximate date when the work was or will be completed; and, if applicable, the work has been published or will be published elsewhere by July 1, 1982. Four copies of abstracts should be sent to Walter K. Johnson, Conference Chairman, Metropolitan Waste Control Commission, 350 Metro Square Building, St. Paul, MN 55101. Abstracts marked on or before December 18 will be accepted for review. Additional information may be obtained by calling Johnson (telephone: 812-222-8423).

The conference is sponsored by the American Society of Civil Engineers (Environmental Engineering Division) in cooperation with the University of Minnesota Department of Civil and Mineral Engineering, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, the Central States Water Pollution Control Association, and the Minnesota section of ASCE.

Separates will be mailed within 3 weeks of journal publication or within 10 days if ordered after the journal has appeared. Separates are available for purchase for two years from date of publication.

Copies of English translations of articles from Russian translation journals are available either in unedited form at the time of their listing in EOS or in final printed form when a journal is published. The charge is \$2.00 per Russian page.

Princeton University Short Course

This course will cover fundamentals of the physics of flow through porous media, emphasizing problems arising in groundwater hydrology, oil reservoir engineering, and soil physics. After developing the methodology for obtaining the balance laws of interest, the seminar will focus on numerical methods for solving the resulting partial differential equations. Case studies and hands-on computing experience will be included. The lectures will be given by Professor George F. Pinder.

For information please contact:
George F. Pinder
Dept. of Civil Engineering (code 123)
Princeton University
Princeton, N.J. 08544
(609) 921-1123

Fundamental Concepts in Modelling Fluid Flow and Solute Transport in Porous Media January 26 - 29, 1982

Meteorology

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Separates

High-quality reprint of individual articles from AGU journals are available in limited quantities. The separates program is designed to provide you with single articles for your personal use. Small quantity purchases for classroom use or library reserve copies for classes are available while supplies last; send your request on department stationery giving the class title and number of enrolled students. Quantity orders for resale or redistribution will not be filled.

To Order: The order number can be found at the end of each abstract; use all digits when ordering. Only papers with order numbers are available from AGU. Cost: \$3.50 for the first article and \$1.00 for each additional article in the same order. Payment must accompany order.

Deposit Account: A minimum of \$10.00 may be placed on deposit with AGU for the purchase of separates. It funds are on deposit, the cost of the first article is only \$2.00 and \$1.00 for each additional article in the same order.

Separates will be mailed within 3 weeks of journal publication or within 10 days if ordered after the journal has appeared. Separates are available for purchase for two years from date of publication.

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Physical Properties of Rocks

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Planetary Science

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